## BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION NOTICE OF COMMENT PERIOD AND PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MINIMUM FILING REQUIREMENTS

In 1981, the Delaware Public Service Commission (the "Commission" or "PSC") adopted "Minimum Filing Requirements for All Regulated Companies" to govern applications to the Commission by regulated public utilities. Parts A of the Minimum Filing Requirements describe the filing and content of rate increase applications made by large utilities subject to the Commission's jurisdiction. These portions of the Minimum Filing Requirements are reproduced in their present form as Exhibit "B".

Rate increase applications submitted to the Commission are reviewed and evaluated by the Commission's Staff for the justness and reasonableness of the rates proposed. The Commission is informed by Staff that, in recent years, the frequency and number of such applications has increased significantly, resulting in a corresponding increase in the administrative burdens associated with Staff's review. Staff has also identified certain practices that tend to add significantly and unreasonably to these administrative burdens. According to Staff, these practices typically involve changes made by the utility to data on which the application relies, including changes to the test year (as that term is used in the Minimum Filing Requirements) and changes in rate base items, expenses, or revenues. Staff contends that the burden occasioned by such practices is most severe where multiple and material changes are made at different points in time during the pendency of a single application. Staff further contends that, where such changes are sought, they are often of a type that is avoidable through the applicant's exercise of ordinary diligence in preparing its rate increase application.

Staff now seeks certain changes and additions to Parts A to the Minimum Filing Requirements that are designed to curtail the undesirable practices. In this way, the efficiency of

the rate review process will be increased, and its administrative burdens reduced. The text of the proposed Minimum Filing Requirements, as modified by Staff's changes and additions, is attached as Exhibit "C" The Commission has authority to issue such rules, and to effect the proposed changes and additions, under 26 *Del. C.* § 209(a).

Copies of the filing may be inspected at the Commission during normal business hours, or may be viewed by going to Delafile (http://depsc.delaware.gov/), the Commission's file management system, and by searching Reg. 4.

The Commission hereby solicits written comments, suggestions, compilations of data, briefs, or other written materials concerning Staff's proposed changes and additions to the Minimum Filing Requirements. These such materials shall be filed with the Commission in Delafile or can be mailed to its office located at 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Cannon Building, Suite 100, Dover, Delaware 19904. *All such materials shall be filed on or before February 1*, 2023. In addition, the Commission's duly appointed Hearing Examiner will conduct a public hearing concerning Staff's proposed changes and additions on February 16, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the Commission's hearing room at the above address.

The Minimum Filing Requirements, Staff's proposed changes and additions to the same, and the materials submitted in connection therewith will be available for public inspection and copying at the Commission's Dover office during normal business hours. The fee for copying is \$0.25 per page.

Any individual with disabilities who wishes to participate in these proceedings should contact the Commission to discuss any auxiliary aids or services needed to facilitate such review or participation. Such contact may be in person, by writing, telephonically (including use of the Telecommunications Relay Service), or otherwise. The Commission's toll-free telephone number in Delaware is (800) 282-8574. Persons with questions concerning this application may contact the Commission by either Text Telephone ("TT") or by regular telephone at (302) 736-7500.